



## Calling Old Cell Phones DIY Project

### Civic Circle Area: Donate

*The impact of COVID-19 continues to change our daily lives and routines, but volunteering and civic engagement are just as important as ever. This project can be modified to adhere to social distancing guidelines set by local and national authorities, to do virtually or to do at home and deliver via mail or drop off.*

In the United States, 416,000 cellphones are dumped into landfills or incinerators every day. Discarded cellphones can release toxins into the environment, harming the air, water and soil. Help the environment and others by collecting and donating discarded cell phones.

### What You Need:

- Collection boxes
- Posters
- Flyers

### Steps:

1. Call a meeting to organize your collection.
2. At your meeting, discuss why it is important to recycle phones and who can benefit from a used cell phone.
3. Decide to whom you will donate the phones. Be sure to contact the organization to ensure that they can accept your donation.
4. Consider going into your community. Ask local merchants, community agencies, churches or places like the library if they will display a collection box.
5. Make posters and flyers. Advertise through social media and in your community's newspaper.
6. Tell donors in your advertisements to deactivate their phones, and that while it is not necessary, if they have the chargers, extra batteries and/or a manual, to put all components in a sealed plastic baggie.
7. Let the collection begin.
8. Send the collected cell phones to your recipient.

### Reflection Questions:

- What did you learn about the importance of recycling electronic waste?
- How else can you help the environment?